FORM GEN. 160 (Rev. 6-80)

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CITY OF LOS ANGELES

INTER-DEPARTMENTAL CORRESPONDENCE

DATE: JULY 21, 2000

TO: GERRY PINNERE, Park Maintenance Supervisor
City Wide Services

FROM: STEVE MOE, Water Manager
Valley Region

SUBJECT: MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR DEL REY LAGOON

Del Rey Lagoon is a local park owned by the City of Los Angeles and operated by the Department of Recreation and Parks. It is located on the south side of Bolona Creek adjacent to Dockweiler Beach. The source of water for the lagoon is from Bolona Creek. The lagoon intake and discharge is controlled by a mechanical tidal gate located approximately 200 yards above the mouth of Bolona Creek at the Pacific Ocean.

Lagoon level and water quality are determined by tidal flow. Del Rey Lagoon is operated as a passive recreation feature within the park; no fishing, swimming or private boating is allowed. In order to maintain the lagoon in an aesthetically pleasing condition, a combination of cultural and chemical methods can be used to control algal, vascular plant growth, along with objectionable odors.

Method/Cultural

Temporary removal of water from the lagoon. This is accomplished by opening the tidal gate on a low tide (minus) and allowing lagoon water to drain out. This procedure would take approximately six hours. The tide gate wold then be closed and the exposed lagoon bottom would be allowed to dry, desiccating the algae and plant material. This drying time could take two to three days.

After this desiccation period, the lagoon tidal gate would then be opened and allowed to remain open for a 24-hour period to allow for flushing of the lagoon. The tidal gate would be closed at the peak of the high tide, and water would be kept within the lagoon for an extended period of two to three weeks, depending on the tidal cycle. Routine bi-weekly monitoring of the lagoon, at both high and low tide, will be done to ascertain the effectiveness of cultural control methods and to time subsequent tidal gate changes.

Monitoring personnel will have a current tide table (available at any local sporting goods store) and will maintain a log documenting visitation times, local weather conditions, visual observations of algal and plant growth, unusual odors or adverse conditions. Visual observations of the types of aquatic life (flora and fauna) should also be included.

Method 2 - Chemical Control

In the event that cultural methods are unable to adequately control adverse plant and algal growth, an approved herbicide will be applied to spot treat local areas. Herbicide will be applied according to label directions and additional monitoring will be done to document effects of treatment. The method of application and subsequent monitoring will be determined by tidal conditions within the lagoon.

Del Rey Lagoon is an integral part of the tidal estuary; it is in reality, a tidal mud flat. Areas of this type are the breeding and rearing grounds for many species of marine fish, crustacea and mollusks. The ebb and flow of salt and freshwater are necessary for them to survive.

Method 3 - Mechanical Control

Excessive algal or weed growth can be removed by harvesting with a rake or cable.

SM/blt

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CITY OF LOS ANGELES

INTER-DEPARTMENTAL CORRESPONDENCE

DATE: JULY 25, 2000

TO: GERRY PINNERE, Park Maintenance Supervisor
Citywide Forestry Division

FROM: STEVE MOE, Park Maintenance Supervisor
Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Area

SUBJECT: DEL REY LAGOON

On July 24, 2000, I spoke to Mr. Diego Busado, a biologist with the California Department of Fish and Game, regarding the possible use of an algacide in Del Rey Lagoon. Mr. Busado stated that there cannot be any discharge of any chemical into the ocean. The residue of a pesticide could not be kept from discharging into the ocean and it would have an adverse effect on the environment.

I also spoke to Mr. Orville Ball, a limnologist and former consultant to the Department of Recreation and Parks, about this problem. Mr. Ball agreed with C.D.F.G. and also stated that the most successful means of control/management will be continual or more frequent flushing of the Lagoon with tidal water. Frequent flushing with brackish or salt water will change the ecosystem from fresh to salt water and will probably kill-off the pond weed established in the south end of the Lagoon, unless there is a fresh water source (i.e. spring, drain, or ground water).

We are, therefore, left with only two choices for algal and plant control in Del Rey Lagoon–cultural control and mechanical removal.

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